

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the Times."

James Gannon, formerly a barkeeper in New Orleans, shot and killed his wife in Louisville on Saturday. His wife separated from him several years ago on account of ill-treatment. Gannon came up from New Orleans a month or two ago, and persuaded her to come back. She lived with him three weeks, when she again left him. Saturday morning Gannon went to the house where she was staying, and, after some conversation with her, pulled a pistol from his pocket, placed it against his wife's breast and fired. She fell to the floor, when Gannon fired again, the bullet entering her breast a second time, and killing her instantly. Gannon has been arrested.

There has been for some time past a conflict of authority between Gov. Jacob of West Virginia, and the board of public works as to appointment of the superintendent of the penitentiary in that State. The question was taken to the Supreme Court of the State for adjudication, and that tribunal has decided that the authority to appoint the superintendent belonged to the board of public works.

It is now supposed that the late Ethelbert S. Mills, President of the Brooklyn Trust Company, who was drowned at Coney Island on Monday, the 14th instant, while bathing in the surf, committed suicide. The circumstances of Mr. Mills' death were singular enough to excite suspicion, for he was a strong swimmer, and was lost on a comparatively secure beach.

Michael Manning, in Albany, last night entered the residence of Peter McNamara, who was in the room with his wife. McNamara immediately sprang upon him with a knife and inflicted a wound in his abdomen which may prove fatal. He afterwards charged Manning with coming to his house to see his wife. McNamara was arrested.

The Revenue officers on Saturday, made a raid upon several suspected parties in New York, and seized over a thousand watches of foreign make with American trade-marks engraved upon the works. The forging of American trade-marks upon foreign watches was made a crime by a law of the last Congress.

Julius Carl, formerly sheriff of Hall county, Ky., engaged in a quarrel with A. M. Smith, a respectable citizen, a few days ago, which ended in Carl shooting Smith in the breast with a double-barreled shot gun, killing him instantly. An old grudge existed between the parties.

The Chinese laborers in Cuba are getting dissatisfied with being paid in paper currency. They contracted for their wages to be paid in silver and unless the planters fulfill their agreement disturbances are likely to occur.

John Albertson, yesterday in Philadelphia, attempted to kill his wife, Jennie, from whom he is separated. He attacked her and cut a deep gash in her throat. He was arrested, and his wife was taken to a hospital. Her injuries are dangerous.

The death of Lord Westbury is announced. He early distinguished himself at the bar, and rising rapidly became identified with Lord Palmerston's ministry and served for two administrations under Palmerston as attorney general.

The New York Times says that Frank Walworth, who remains a sort of hero in Sing Sing, is allowed to work "where visitors cannot see him, so that his feelings may not be hurt."

The manufacturers of Fall River, Massachusetts, have unanimously agreed to stop the mills two weeks in August.

A Virginian sends \$20 from Hampton to the conscience fund.

## VIRGINIA NEWS.

The Fairfax County News is opposed to taxing the county for the building of the Occoquan bridge.

There was a destructive storm at Lexington on Friday. Much damage was done to the crops, and other property destroyed.

Ground was broken on the Valley railroad, at Lexington, last Friday.

THE CONSERVATIVE MEETING IN WARRENTON.—The Warrenton Index is authorized to state that the position of Gen. Payne and Capt. Sheppard touching the resolutions offered by Mr. Brooke is this:

"The first and fourth resolutions presented no objection to them; the second looked in their opinion to the tying of the hands of the Conservatives in the impending election; the third was regarded as a work of supererogation, inasmuch as no one was disposed to denounce the departure in the past of any person giving indication of intention to co-operate with the Conservative party in the future. The third resolution in their judgment contained no invitation to any one to return to their party allegiance; that if such was the object of its author an amendment to that effect would silence their opposition. At the suggestion of Capt. S. Mr. B. so amended the resolution as to refer to those who were ready to cooperate with us. It was as far from their purpose as that of the mover of the resolution to denounce any man for his past conduct if his present and future course was right. The resolution of Major Scott was willingly and cheerfully accepted by them; and had Mr. Brooke's resolution been drawn in similar language it would not have met their opposition."

DEATH BY LIGHTNING.—Intelligence of a fatal stroke of lightning and the stunning of several others on Friday last is received from Bedford county, Virginia. The Lynchburg Republican says:

"Some damage was done to the crops, but the most serious result was the loss of a life. About five miles from Liberty descended a family by the name of Overstreet. Driven into the house by the violence of the storm the family were gathered in pleasant social intercourse, when suddenly a thunderbolt descended the chimney. Jno. Overstreet who had a wife and five children, was sitting near the chimney when the fatal bolt descended. He was struck behind the right ear, the lightning passing down his shoulder, across his breast, to his left side, burning into the flesh in the course of its track. A brother of the deceased, James Overstreet, who was sitting near him was badly paralyzed and rendered insensible by the shock. It is supposed, however, that he will recover. The father, John H. Overstreet, was also in the room and badly shocked, but not otherwise injured. Mrs. Overstreet, the wife of the man killed, was standing in the door at the time and was slightly injured, a large knot appearing on the forehead."

A QUERY IN POINT.—At a recent republican convention in Lynchburg, Va., one of the colored speakers indignantly scouted the idea that he could support Henry A. Wise for Governor, the man who put to death John Brown, who came to Virginia to give freedom to the slaves. The speaker would support none but a true and tried republican, meaning thereby, as is understood, Mr. Hughes. The Petersburg Appeal wants to know if it would at all tend to withdraw the support of the colored voters of Virginia from Mr. Hughes that he fully approved the course of Governor Wise in hanging John Brown at the time it was done.—*Baltimore Sun*.

## Fourth of July at Dranesville, Va.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] DRANESVILLE, July 12.—On Friday, the 4th inst., there was a festival here, the proceeds of which are to be applied to repairing Liberty Church in this village. The church is situated upon eminent ground in a beautiful grove of large spreading oaks. In the grounds which surround and belong to the church are included about two and a half acres of land, which were kindly given many years ago by Major James Coleman, and decided to a party of gentlemen in trust for the purpose of erecting a church, under whose roof it was distinctly understood every denomination should have the right to worship; hence the name of Liberty. About twenty years ago the church was rebuilt and enlarged and afforded a place of worship that every member and citizen felt proud of, but during the late unpleasantness that so much disturbed our country, our church fell a victim to those who seemed to take a pleasure in destroying just such things as we would cherish as our standards, and they so demolished and defaced the church that it now stands but a wreck of its former self. Under the shade trees that form the grove that decorates the grounds, in their last sleep, lie members of a hundred families. Here sleep men from the north, who removed here years before the war, and purchased and improved land; reared and educated their children; who took their last earthly view of the remains of a beloved father in old Liberty grove. In this grove fathers have buried their darling boys; mothers have had a fond farewell to devoted daughters; here sisters and brothers, by death, have made a final parting. Under these trees little one's hearts have ached with sorrow and their little eyes have been bedimmed with tears when they have turned from the graves of fond parents and set out upon the path of an orphan that leads through a cold, uncharitable and friendless world, unprotected and uncared for by all save him who "suffereth not a sparrow to fall to the ground without his notice."

In the walls of the old church, (old sanctuary) (many would exclaim, "Oh! hallowed spot to memory dear!") here years and years ago ministers who had their growth in God's service and have long since in an other land marked to the bidding "well done, enter thou in," pointed sinners to the lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world. Men and women that are growing old in years, and who worship here, here at this old enchanted altar, where Jesus still suffers his spirit to mingle with the guilty for the pardon of their sins, were led when children by christian parents to the fold of mercy; where there was a balm for the little soul that was sick with sin. From long associations with the old church and its grounds, every one in this vicinity felt greatly interested in the effort made to repair the church, and it is unnecessary to say the purpose for which persons met on the Fourth instant proved a grand success. At two o'clock a sumptuous dinner was spread, after which refreshments of all kinds were served by the fair hands of ladies. God bless them; without their assistance and presence nothing can be brought near successful. Rev. Mr. Henry, of the Methodist Church South, was present, greeting all in his pleasant southern manner. To him are we all indebted for what we will soon have, a neat and respectable house of worship. His first sermon was here preached, he put the hall in motion, and has kept it rolling until nearly all is accomplished. Rev. Mr. Clemmens, of the M. E. Church, was also present, and partook freely of the enjoyments of the day. Capt. S. P. Dushane, of Mississippi, who a few years ago married one of the belles of our village, and who spends his summers at his beautiful residence not far off, was also present. The captain is a pious social gentleman, and forms friends wherever he goes. Long may he live, and may summer roll swiftly around that we may have him with us. Old Dr. Wm. B. Day, a leading member of the church, who is personally acquainted with almost every member of both the Baltimore and Virginia Conferences, was also present. The doctor is an eminent physician and has practised here for more than forty years; is beloved and respected by all as the life of all social gatherings, and by his own example proved to all present at dinner it was not at all dangerous for any one to be present. Mr. Henry is the right man in the right place, and much good will result from his mission here. We hope to be able to retain his services for years to come, and that he may not be induced to leave us either for strawberries or greenbacks.

The wheat harvest is ended, and there is much over an average yield in this section. The late rains have much improved the grass and oats, and from the present prospect we shall have a fair crop of both.

I have understood the amount raised by the dinner and subscription on the Fourth amounts to a fraction less than four hundred dollars. "How is that for high?" for a people who a few years ago were left without a home, a horse, a cow, a pig, or a dollar! Oh! these Southern people! Nothing can defeat them. Give me a house in the South and I am happy. DRANESVILLE.

Letter from Loudoun Co. [Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] LEESBURG, VA., July 16.—It has been the custom of late times to make a huge outcry against the taxation in Virginia. I am happy to say that there is one blessed exception to this general clamor in the good old county of Loudoun. Last year the estimated State taxation for Loudoun county was \$80,000, and on this the county levy is a percentage. In addition there is a head tax for county purposes of 50 cents, and a percentage on the license tax.

Last year and this year the license tax was 12 1/2 per cent. on \$3,000; the head tax amounted to \$2,000. These two taxes were and are \$2,375. Last year the percentage on State revenue was 15 on \$80,000, making \$12,000; the reduction in value of land makes the State revenue estimated at \$70,000, on the tax is 14 1/2 per cent., \$10,150; making the saving \$1,850, or nearly 12 1/2 per cent.; the reduction in the State taxation is also 12 1/2 per cent.; so that the general reduction is 1 1/2. Now so much for the present. What are the prospects for the future?

The old clerk's office building, having been found too small, it was deemed necessary either to build or buy, and the Supervisors purchased the Academy building with a half-acre of land, which gives the county now 14 acres of ground, 210 feet on King street, and 315 on Market street, with rooms for the Clerk, Treasurer and Sheriff in one building, detached about sixty feet from the Court House. On this purchase the payment provided for this year and included in the levy of \$101.50 was \$3,000 and \$1,616.67 for the services of the late Geo. K. Fox, clerk, for the care and preservation of the records of the county during the war, and \$425 for public services of the Sheriff for two years, about \$200 of which will not be required to be levied hereafter, and \$100 for rents. Thus the extraordinary expenses included in this present levy will be about \$5,000, so that the county levy on property next year need not exceed \$7,000, including the \$2,500, not paid to this date on the academy building, \$2,000 having been paid from the cash balance in the hands of the treasurer. This is believed to be an excellent investment for the county, as the rents of the old building for officers will be \$350, and the Treasurer's and Sheriff's rents saved \$100, which is equivalent to an interest of 6 per cent. on \$7,500, the purchase money.

Among the other large items in the levy are Superintendent of Poor, salary \$400; physician poor, \$125; support of poor at almshouse, \$1,211.36; Commonwealth's Attorney, salary \$300; extra levy in Lloyd case, \$100; clerk pub-

lic services \$200; books for clerk's office, \$100; jailor and care of Court House, \$447.50, and stationery for clerks, \$100; for street at jail, \$50; advertising in the papers, \$261.30; re-assessment of land, \$600. The elections, jury, registration, and all other matters cost only about \$2,000. So that the prospect for the future is cheering, and the retrospect is not unpleasant. The sum of the matter of taxation is about this: State, including schools, 50 cts on \$100; county, 7 1/2 cts. on \$100; Township for roads, schools, and general expenses, 20 cts. on \$100; total taxation in Loudoun, 77 1/2 on \$100. It may be a little more in some townships, and a little less in others because of the opening and working of the roads.

Our globe fund was invested in a farm and building, and under the careful management of Mr. H. W. Hibbs this farm almost sustains the poor of the county.

What we want now is a system by which the county will aid in the construction of good roads; say let the county issue \$100,000 in bonds, and let each of the rate payers of \$1,000 per mile to companies, which will build MacAdamized roads. Our county is to be the outskirts of Washington city, and to make it desirable, entirely so, for summer residences, we must have such roads as will suit the light vehicles which are used in cities.

We have health, fruit, water, beautiful scenery, pleasant people to spend a summer amongst, and many other desirable things; a system of good roads would make Loudoun county almost a paradise. ALIQUIS.

Letter from the Northern Neck. [Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] WESTMORELAND COUNTY, VA., July 18.—Leaving Fredericksburg on our way down the Rappahannock, we pass Port Royal on the south and Port Conway on the north bank of the river, about twenty five miles down. The first named is, to judge from its appearance from the river view, quite a village and presents a neat water front. Port Conway consists of a store or two and several private residences. One I noticed, the residence of Mr. Turner, was an exceedingly elegant and spacious brick edifice, the owner of which I am told is one of the most wealthy citizens of King George. Indeed King George, along the Rappahannock, is a better looking county than along the Potomac; better cultivated and more thrifty.

Leedstown, thirty miles further down in Westmoreland, was laid off on the same day as Philadelphia, which latter city has somewhat the start of it in population, as Leedstown has only about twenty inhabitants. The river here is deep and begins to widen. Large vessels can float here. It has long been an important shipping point to the people of this (Westmoreland) county.

A little further down is Tappahannock, in Essex county, a thrifty village in appearance, and the scene of quite a flourishing grain trade. From this section also are shipped considerable quantities of summer, and there is exported also ivy roots, wood and tan-bark. The Tidewater Lumber I believe is published here.

Toward the mouth of the river, which here spreads out into a stream of several miles in width, are the famous oyster beds out of which many of the Rappahannock people get a living. The shoals and banks are lined with bivalves of the highest quality. The waters abound also in fish, crabs and wild fowl, while a few miles from the shores are found all sorts of game from squirrels to deer. In Lancaster deer hunts are quite common.

It is put as an objection to this section of our State that it is sickly. I know of no fact more calculated to convince one of the incorrectness of this opinion than to go to any public gathering and see the stalwart men and handsome ladies who there assemble. I have never seen finer looking men anywhere, and I think that perhaps I never saw as many hale, strong looking old men together at any one place as I have seen assembled at the Court Houses on court days.

I feel that I cannot insist too often or strongly on the material conditions of prosperity possessed by this region. Nowhere in the State have we naturally finer lands or better facilities for transportation to market. Surely very soon attention will be attracted to these advantages. H.

Mr. Clay and Mr. Ritchie. [The following is an extract from Ex-Senator Foote's Reminiscences, published in the Washington Chronicle.]

It was in 1850, that Mr. Ritchie came to me one morning, a few weeks after Mr. Clay had reached Washington, in company with General Bayley, of Virginia, and urged that we two should call upon Mr. Clay and ask him to offer a resolution to the Senate for the raising of a committee of thirteen, through the instrumentality of which he thought that the great and alarming differences then existing might be reconciled, and general national brotherhood be re-established. Mr. Ritchie went further in conference, and declared the opinion, which he entertained, that no man in the Republic could as successfully take the lead in the needed work of pacification as Mr. Clay. In the most touching and impressive manner he gave utterance to the regret which he felt that facts connected with contests for party ascendancy in former days should so far have estranged Mr. Clay and himself from each other that he could not take the liberty of calling upon him in person and conferring with him in regard to the means of averting the catastrophe obviously menaced. Mr. Ritchie, in addition, authorized us to give, in his name, to Mr. Clay a most explicit pledge that, should he conclude to adopt the course thus indicated, he would support him to the utmost in the widely-circulated newspaper he was then editing. General Bayley and myself called that very evening upon Mr. Clay in his parlor at the National Hotel. He met us in the most gracious and cordial manner, and received with evident pleasure the communication with which we had been intrusted by Mr. Ritchie. He declared his warm approval of the plan of operation suggested by that gentleman, but stated that for various reasons he would prefer that the resolution proposing the committee of thirteen should be brought forward in the Senate by some other individual. I afterward agreed to offer it, on the express condition that I should not be made one of its members, and that Mr. Clay himself should consent to preside over its deliberations. No one will be surprised to learn that in a day or two after, Mr. Clay and Mr. Ritchie met, became cordially reconciled to each other, and consulted together often in the most fraternal manner at the State of the great struggle, which, at last, resulted in the adoption of the Compromise enactments of 1850. Before this consummation had crowned the efforts of Mr. Clay and his Union friends, on a very warm day in midsummer, a very large party of Congressional gentlemen was convened at the hospitable mansion of Mr. Sullivan, of this city, a man universally beloved and esteemed, for the purpose of enjoying a dinner good enough, indeed, to be set before princes and nobles. Mr. Clay was one of the invited guests, as was also Mr. Ritchie. They sat upon opposite sides of the table. Mr. Clay was in his happiest conversational mood, and poured forth many a choice anecdote concerning the scenes of public life through which he had passed. It was a natural that all present should wish to hear him say something touching the Compromise struggle then going on, and the chances of accomplishing the object which all of us had so much at heart, and an effort, therefore, was made to call him out thereupon. He talked upon this subject for some time, with even more than his accustomed eloquence, when

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I feel that I cannot insist too often or strongly on the material conditions of prosperity possessed by this region. Nowhere in the State have we naturally finer lands or better facilities for transportation to market. Surely very soon attention will be attracted to these advantages. H.

Mr. Clay and Mr. Ritchie. [The following is an extract from Ex-Senator Foote's Reminiscences, published in the Washington Chronicle.]

It was in 1850, that Mr. Ritchie came to me one morning, a few weeks after Mr. Clay had reached Washington, in company with General Bayley, of Virginia, and urged that we two should call upon Mr. Clay and ask him to offer a resolution to the Senate for the raising of a committee of thirteen, through the instrumentality of which he thought that the great and alarming differences then existing might be reconciled, and general national brotherhood be re-established. Mr. Ritchie went further in conference, and declared the opinion, which he entertained, that no man in the Republic could as successfully take the lead in the needed work of pacification as Mr. Clay. In the most touching and impressive manner he gave utterance to the regret which he felt that facts connected with contests for party ascendancy in former days should so far have estranged Mr. Clay and himself from each other that he could not take the liberty of calling upon him in person and conferring with him in regard to the means of averting the catastrophe obviously menaced. Mr. Ritchie, in addition, authorized us to give, in his name, to Mr. Clay a most explicit pledge that, should he conclude to adopt the course thus indicated, he would support him to the utmost in the widely-circulated newspaper he was then editing. General Bayley and myself called that very evening upon Mr. Clay in his parlor at the National Hotel. He met us in the most gracious and cordial manner, and received with evident pleasure the communication with which we had been intrusted by Mr. Ritchie. He declared his warm approval of the plan of operation suggested by that gentleman, but stated that for various reasons he would prefer that the resolution proposing the committee of thirteen should be brought forward in the Senate by some other individual. I afterward agreed to offer it, on the express condition that I should not be made one of its members, and that Mr. Clay himself should consent to preside over its deliberations. No one will be surprised to learn that in a day or two after, Mr. Clay and Mr. Ritchie met, became cordially reconciled to each other, and consulted together often in the most fraternal manner at the State of the great struggle, which, at last, resulted in the adoption of the Compromise enactments of 1850. Before this consummation had crowned the efforts of Mr. Clay and his Union friends, on a very warm day in midsummer, a very large party of Congressional gentlemen was convened at the hospitable mansion of Mr. Sullivan, of this city, a man universally beloved and esteemed, for the purpose of enjoying a dinner good enough, indeed, to be set before princes and nobles. Mr. Clay was one of the invited guests, as was also Mr. Ritchie. They sat upon opposite sides of the table. Mr. Clay was in his happiest conversational mood, and poured forth many a choice anecdote concerning the scenes of public life through which he had passed. It was a natural that all present should wish to hear him say something touching the Compromise struggle then going on, and the chances of accomplishing the object which all of us had so much at heart, and an effort, therefore, was made to call him out thereupon. He talked upon this subject for some time, with even more than his accustomed eloquence, when

lie services \$200; books for clerk's office, \$100; jailor and care of Court House, \$447.50, and stationery for clerks, \$100; for street at jail, \$50; advertising in the papers, \$261.30; re-assessment of land, \$600. The elections, jury, registration, and all other matters cost only about \$2,000. So that the prospect for the future is cheering, and the retrospect is not unpleasant. The sum of the matter of taxation is about this: State, including schools, 50 cts on \$100; county, 7 1/2 cts. on \$100; Township for roads, schools, and general expenses, 20 cts. on \$100; total taxation in Loudoun, 77 1/2 on \$100. It may be a little more in some townships, and a little less in others because of the opening and working of the roads.

Our globe fund was invested in a farm and building, and under the careful management of Mr. H. W. Hibbs this farm almost sustains the poor of the county.

What we want now is a system by which the county will aid in the construction of good roads; say let the county issue \$100,000 in bonds, and let each of the rate payers of \$1,000 per mile to companies, which will build MacAdamized roads. Our county is to be the outskirts of Washington city, and to make it desirable, entirely so, for summer residences, we must have such roads as will suit the light vehicles which are used in cities.

We have health, fruit, water, beautiful scenery, pleasant people to spend a summer amongst, and many other desirable things; a system of good roads would make Loudoun county almost a paradise. ALIQUIS.

Letter from the Northern Neck. [Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] WESTMORELAND COUNTY, VA., July 18.—Leaving Fredericksburg on our way down the Rappahannock, we pass Port Royal on the south and Port Conway on the north bank of the river, about twenty five miles down. The first named is, to judge from its appearance from the river view, quite a village and presents a neat water front. Port Conway consists of a store or two and several private residences. One I noticed, the residence of Mr. Turner, was an exceedingly elegant and spacious brick edifice, the owner of which I am told is one of the most wealthy citizens of King George. Indeed King George, along the Rappahannock, is a better looking county than along the Potomac; better cultivated and more thrifty.

Leedstown, thirty miles further down in Westmoreland, was laid off on the same day as Philadelphia, which latter city has somewhat the start of it in population, as Leedstown has only about twenty inhabitants. The river here is deep and begins to widen. Large vessels can float here. It has long been an important shipping point to the people of this (Westmoreland) county.

A little further down is Tappahannock, in Essex county, a thrifty village in appearance, and the scene of quite a flourishing grain trade. From this section also are shipped considerable quantities of summer, and there is exported also ivy roots, wood and tan-bark. The Tidewater Lumber I believe is published here.

Toward the mouth of the river, which here spreads out into a stream of several miles in width, are the famous oyster beds out of which many of the Rappahannock people get a living. The shoals and banks are lined with bivalves of the highest quality. The waters abound also in fish, crabs and wild fowl, while a few miles from the shores are found all sorts of game from squirrels to deer. In Lancaster deer hunts are quite common.

It is put as an objection to this section of our State that it is sickly. I know of no fact more calculated to convince one of the incorrectness of this opinion than to go to any public gathering and see the stalwart men and handsome ladies who there assemble. I have never seen finer looking men anywhere, and I think that perhaps I never saw as many hale, strong looking old men together at any one place as I have seen assembled at the Court Houses on court days.

suddenly his mercurial and impulsive friend of "Auld lang syne" rose from his seat and exclaimed: "Look here, Mr. Clay; if you will really save the Union, we will all forgive you for having had Adams elected in 1825, by bargain, intrigue, and management." "Shut your mouth!" exclaimed Mr. Clay, in response; "shut your mouth, Tom Ritchie, you know perfectly well that there never was a word of truth in that charge." "Very well, very well," smilingly responded Mr. Ritchie, "I say to you now, in hearing of this goodly company, that if you succeed in re-creating the Republic from ruin, and I should survive you, Tom Ritchie will plant a sprig of laurel upon your grave."

I should not omit to mention here that Mr. Clay, a few minutes after this pleasant